



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY APRIL 13, 2021
MINUTES**

A meeting of the City Council ("Council") of the Village of The Hills ("the Village") was held remotely. Mayor Wharton called the meeting to order and the roll was called of the duly constituted officers and members of the Council to wit:

Greg Wharton, Mayor
Hilda Potsavich, Mayor Pro Tem
Robert Smith, Councilmember, Secretary

Jim Nelson, Councilmember, Treasurer
Rodney Thompson, Councilmember
Zac Carroll, Councilmember

and all said persons were present thus constituting a quorum.

Also present were Wendy Smith and Linda Lunney, Village of The Hills; Earl Wood, MUD; Tom Stiles, POA, Michael DeLeon and Scott Ginnet, Constables Office.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of March 9, 2021 Regular Meeting

2. Finance/Treasurer's Report for March 2021.

Councilmember Nelson reviewed the February revenue report. Property tax collections are at 97.14% of the budget. An overage of budgeted revenues continues in both general sales and mixed beverages tax remittances. Franchise fees are on plan for the year to date.

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved approval of the Consent Agenda; Councilmember Nelson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

REPORTS

1. Law Enforcement

The written report was reviewed showing: 4 Citation, 53 Warnings; of which 31 were residents; 20 visitors and 6 contractors. Violations were failure to obey stop signs and to signal turn. Officer DeLeon introduced Scott Ginnet, the new officer that will patrol the community. Mayor Wharton pointed out two areas of concern: Club Estates gate area around 4:00 – 5:30 pm when contractors are leaving, and people not staying in the correct turn lanes at the entry gate at Lohman's crossing. Officer Ginnet was asked to address people not walking against traffic in areas without the walking trail.

2. POA Liaison

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich reviewed her written report:

- The Site Manager asked for direction on storm damage to resident's yards. It was suggested that she not give violations until residents can determine what plants will still come back to life. Ms. Spears reported 15 property closings over the last 60 days.
- Jim Vick, Board President, reported on cracks in the roads, other communities have similar issues after the freeze.
- Tom Stiles, Security Chair, said the time required to travel gate to gate from the Flintrock gate has been extended. They are looking for contractors to begin the Guard House remodel.
- Ray Hatch was approved as a Finance Committee member and Tammy Smith was approve as a Landscape Committee member.

Tom Stiles discussed getting together with the Village, MUD and POA to discuss the recent winter storm and procedures for future events.

3. MUD Liaison

Mayor Wharton reported on the last meeting where it was decided to reopen the offices following voluntary mask and social distancing protocols. A discretionary bonus policy was adopted and bonuses were given for exemplary service during the winter storm. A change in recurring credit card payment procedures for MUD billing was also discussed.

4. Park Liaison

Councilmember Smith reported November 7th was the date chosen for Hillsfest. A Movie Night is being planned for October and the YAC will be holding a splash event in July. Five new applications have been received for Park Commissioner. The park reservation system is being revised on line to make it easier for residents. Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich informed the Council that a resident has offered to donate milkweed to attract butterflies. A survey is being prepared to for residents to express their perspectives for the Park.

5. Youth Advisory Commission

Wendy Smith reported that bad weather cancelled the Easter event at the Park but the YAC converted it into an online contest which was well received.

6. City Manager's Report

Wendy Smith participated in interviewing candidates for an Emergency Manager with Bee Cave, and Lakeway. An offer was extended. The Audit is expected to be presented in May. Councilmember Carroll asked for a draft of the Audit before it is presented. Ms. Smith asked council to give her feed-back on the timing of the next quarterly meeting. FenceCrete repairs are waiting for drainage improvements by the MUD.

7. Mayor's Report

Mayor Wharton reported the Helpdesk being well received. He discussed his meeting with Precinct Commissioner Ann Howard and local Mayors. The group will meet every 6 weeks, with information flow around finance resources, regional transportation and emergency response.

The Mayor told the Council of changes he would like in the Council meetings. He will be making suggestions seeking action items, then have a briefing section on items that need discussion. The agenda should be organized, using committees to work on action items.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Discussion and possible action on Disaster Declarations, Travis County Orders, and the Governor's Executive Orders

The City will continue in alignment with the Governor's Executive orders for the next 30 days.

*Councilmember Smith moved to continue alignment with the Governor's Executive orders;
Councilmember Carroll seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

2. Discussion and possible action regarding TML Health Plan documents

The Mayor's signature is required on plan documents, including COBRA and Flexible Spending Account Agreements.

*Councilmember Smith moved to authorize the Mayor to sign TML Health Plan documents;
Councilmember Carroll seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

3. Discussion and possible action regarding community engagement initiatives.

Wendy Smith reported on the new TheHillstx.gov domain to replace the current .org.is being finalized. The curbside collection has been moved to Saturdays and the dates have been set. A community communications policy was discussed.

4. Discussion and possible action on Walking Trail VTH.003 Update

An estimate of \$900,00 to finish the Walking Trail, including crossing the dam was given. It was suggested taking out the dam crossing at this time in order to complete the project with more reasonable cost. Putting tax notes with the POA at market rates is a financing option. Wendy Smith will firm actual costs with the contractors and the Mayor and Councilmember Carroll will work with the POA towards this goal. Legal counsel of both entities are in agreement with these plans. With the Council's permission the Mayor will continue conversation with all involved.

5. Discussion and possible action related to Greenbelt management and request for a memorial bench

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich presented a proposal for placed bee and bat houses around the community. The Mayor requested the actual proposed placement of these houses and the need for community feedback. The Mayor Pro Tem presented a proposed policy with requirements for allowing memorials on city property. A final draft of a policy will be prepared.

6. Discussion of a proposed Noise Ordinance

Mayor Wharton gave a draft policy to the City Attorney and will present it to the Council once the draft is completed. Enforcement is questionable and a protocol will need to be in place once an ordinance is approved.

7. Discussion of Cybersecurity and Open Meetings/Open Records training

City Councilmembers and staff must complete cybersecurity training annually by June. Open Meetings/Open Records training should be completed upon taking office. Links to both trainings have been sent to the Council and completion certificates are kept on file.

8. Consideration and appointment of Parks & Recreation Commissioners

Councilmember Smith presented 5 candidates for consideration: Brian Menendez, Elizabeth Tudor, Jenny Foersterling, Lisa Gothager and Gary Wolff.

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved approval of all 5 appointments to the Parks & Recreation Commission; Councilmember Carroll seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS

- New business items to be included on the next agenda

The General Manager of HC MUD was asked to give a briefing to the Council of predicted summer drought conditions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council went into Executive Session at 10:47 a.m.

The Mayor and City Council may adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any matters listed on the agenda, as authorized by the Texas Government Code including, but not limited to, Sections §441.071 (Consultation with attorney), §551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), §551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), §551.074 (Personnel Matters), §551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), §551.087 (Economic Development), §418.183 (Deliberations about Homeland Security Issues), and as authorized by the Texas Tax Code including, but not limited to Section 321.3022 (Sales Tax Information).

- Consultation with City attorney relating to capital project financing
- Consultation with attorney related to agreement with the City Manager
- Sales Tax Information

The Council came out of Executive Session at 10:57 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

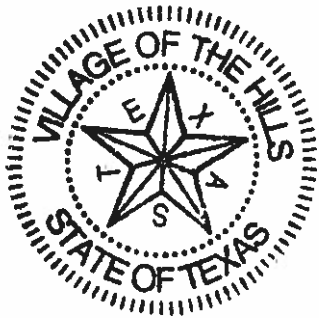
The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

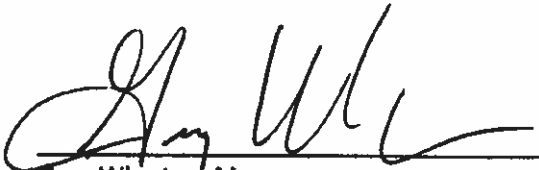
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Signed this 11th day of May 2021.

(Seal)





Greg Wharton, Mayor



Linda Lunney, City Secretary